



ON Nashville!

Issue 4

November 2001

Special Points of Interest

- "Let Freedom Sing"
- Celebrating Neighborhoods Conference
- Community Enhancement Grant Recipients

ON Nashville is published by the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods for citizens of Nashville and Davidson County.

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Nashvillians Encouraged to "Let Freedom Sing"

Mayor Bill Purcell recently announced a "Let Freedom Sing" initiative that began on Veteran's Day and continues through December 31st. "The initiative is a partnership with our businesses, neighborhoods and government. This is a season when Nashville will let freedom sing," said Mayor Purcell.

Together with partners at the *Tennessean*, the *Tennessee Tribune*, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Convention and Visitors Bureau, as well as businesses and neighborhoods throughout our city, citizens are encouraged to show their freedom in simple ways.

Activities associated with the "Let Freedom Sing" initiative encourage citizens to:

DECORATE: Show your pride by

showing America's colors. The "Let Freedom Sing" logo is available for use and can be found at www.nashville.gov

PARTICIPATE: Be a part of the action. Hopefully everywhere you turn, you'll see folks showing their freedom. Be a part of that.

CELEBRATE: The good news about this initiative is that this is a season when there are many opportunities to come together and show spirit. "There are so many good things happening in Nashville, we just have to add the red, white and blue and come be a part of it," says Purcell. He also encouraged citizens to Invite friends and family from out of town to come join the celebration.

Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods host first "Celebrating Neighborhoods" Conference

The Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods hosted the city's first ever conference on neighborhoods, Saturday, November 3, at the Nashville Convention Center. Metro departments and neighborhood leaders came together to learn about and share ideas on improving the quality of life in our city.

The conference featured a series of workshops and general sessions designed to provide attendees with the skills and understanding necessary to create sustainable growth in neighborhoods. Experts from key departments were on hand to discuss issues that impact

neighborhoods such as revitalization, crime prevention and reduction, politics and neighborhoods, organizational effectiveness and building partnerships by engaging the faith community.

During the opening session, Michael J. Schoenfeld, vice chancellor for public affairs at Vanderbilt University, helped set the tone for the day's activities addressing conference participants on *Community Building: Using the Power of Institutions to Change Neighborhoods*. Following his address, Schoenfeld facilitated a very lively panel discussion on the challenges

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Celebrating Neighborhoods Conference

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faced by early pioneers of the neighborhood movement. Panelist included Rev. Bill Barnes, Jan Bushing, Betty Nixon and Charles Williams.

Grant Jones, keynote speaker for the neighborhood conference, delivered a powerful speech to conference participant's about our changing communities and the importance of citizen involvement in that change. Mr. Jones is the founder and director of the Metro Denver Black Church Initiative, an association of more than 50 black churches operating programs for children and families in disadvantaged neighborhoods. He previously completed a fellowship with the Annie E. Casey Foundation with the Mayor's Office in Nashville.

At an awards ceremony later in

the day, thirty-one neighborhood organizations were awarded community enhancement grants for enhancement, organizing and planning projects previously applied for under the new Community Enhancements Grants program of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods. Betty Nixon, director of community, neighborhood and government relations for Vanderbilt University, was honored with the Vanguard Award for her early work in the neighborhood movement. John Stern, director of the Neighborhoods Resource Center, was honored as "Neighbor of the Year" because of his community activism.

For more information on the conference visit our website at www.nashville.gov/neighborhoods

Congratulations

Community Enhancement Grant Recipients

The following organizations received funding for programs in the areas of enhancement, planning and organizing:

- | | |
|---|---------|
| • Breeze Hill Neighbors - Community Garden/ Compost | \$2,500 |
| • Buena Vista Neighbors - Enhancement./Cleanup | \$4,000 |
| • Castlegate Civic Club - Signage/Lighting | \$5,000 |
| • Claymille Station Homeowners - Signage | \$3,500 |
| • Dickerson Rd. Merchants - Planning/Crime Prevention | \$4,950 |
| • East Hill Neighbors - Signage | \$3,500 |
| • Eastwood Neighbors, Inc. - Signage | \$4,950 |
| • Edgehill Community Garden - Community Garden | \$1,325 |
| • Friendship Community Outreach Center - Tutoring | \$1,650 |
| • Gillock/Hilltop Lane Neighbors - Crime Prevention | \$3,500 |
| • Greenwood Neighbors - Lighting/Crime Prevention | \$ 968 |
| • Hadley Park-Clifton Neighbors - Neighborhood Festival | \$4,000 |
| • Haynes Garden Tenant Council - Community Garden | \$2,100 |
| • Haynes Heights Neighbors - Membership Enhancement | \$2,500 |
| • Historic Germantown - Arboretum | \$1,100 |
| • Jones/Buena Vista Neighbors - Crime Prevention/Safety | \$ 725 |

Neighborhood Happenings

Mayor Bill Purcell's Holiday Tree Lighting
Courthouse Plaza
November 30, 2001
5:00 p.m.

Nashville Gas Christmas Parade
December 1, 2001
10 a.m.

Lockland Springs
Christmas Tour of Homes
December 8-9, 2001

Public Works Amnesty Day
(for harmful chemicals)
941 Dr. Richard G. Adams Dr.
December 15, 2001
7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Olympic Torch Relay & Public Reception
Riverfront Park
December 15, 2001
3:00- 9:00 p.m.

New Year's Eve Celebration
The Parthenon
December 31, 2001
6:00 p.m.

Metropolitan Council Meetings
Metro Courthouse
1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month
7:00 p.m.

Metropolitan School Board Meeting
Board Room, 2601 Bransford Ave.
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month
5:00 p.m.

Board of Zoning Appeals
Howard Office Bldg. Auditorium
December 13, 2001
(1st & 3rd Thursday beginning 2002)
1:00 p.m.

Planning Commission
Howard Office Bldg. Auditorium
2nd & 4th Thursday of each month
1:00 p.m.

ON Neighborhoods: *North Nashville Organization for Community Improvement (NNOCI)*

Robert M. Pirsig once stated, "The place to improve the world is first in one's heart and head and hands." Residents of North Nashville took heed to this saying when, in the early 1960's, they put their hearts, heads, and hands into action and started the North Nashville Organization for Community Improvement (NNOCI).

Established out of the need to address issues pertinent to North Nashville residents, NNOCI serves as a vehicle giving voice to residents who once believed their community was forgotten. "Our community issues were not being addressed and it was as if people didn't care," explains Jackie Pillow, a member of NNOCI since 1992. Now the organization, which primarily serves residents living in the vicinity between 9th and 28th Avenue North and Buchanan Street, holds

neighborhood clean ups and participates in National Night Out Against Crime. NNOCI also collaborates with the *Nashville Neighborhood Alliance* and *Tying Nashville Together* on community projects and received a grant from MDHA to do work in the neighborhood. "The grant money was used for safety in eligible homes putting sidewalks down, and installing a drainage system," says Pillow.

NNOCI most recently received a grant from the Mayor's Office of Neighborhoods to implement a neighborhood beautification project. This project is designed to clean up and beautify the neighborhood, as well as encourage residents to have a vested interest in the cleanliness, maintenance, and beautification of the neighborhood at large.

Community Enhancement Grant Recipients (continued)

• Neighbors of Antioch - Neighborhood Festival	\$1,500
• Neighbors Against Crime - Crime Prevention/Lighting	\$4,300
• NNOCI - Enhancement/Clean-up	\$3,000
• Northwest Nashville Civic Assoc. - Beautification/Signage	\$3,015
• Old Hickory Village Neighborhood - Marker/Signage	\$5,000
• Perry Heights Neighborhood Association - Signage	\$3,025
• Richland West End Neighborhood - Beautification	\$2,982
• Riverwood Residents Association - Signage	\$4,977
• Rolling Acres Neighbors - Membership Enhancement	\$2,000
• South Nashville Action People - Safety/Crime Prevention	\$5,000
• Sunnyside Community Citizens, Inc. - Crime Prevention	\$4,968
• Sylvan Park Neighborhood Association - Art Project/Signage	\$4,130
• The Green Hills Action Partners - Signage	\$3,500
• Trimble Action Group - Crime Prevention/Safety	\$1,328
• Woodbine Community Organization - Community Garden	\$5,000

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE GRANT
RECIPIENTS!

Oh No!

(Answers to some of your concerns)

There is a lot of debris blocking an alleyway in my neighborhood. Who should I call?

Public Works maintains alleys that are blocked by debris, other obstructions or have potholes. You may call them at 862-8750.

Is there a Metro Department that takes complaints about unsanitary conditions in public facilities?

The Health Department's General Sanitation Division is responsible for investigating nuisance complaints such as the accumulation of garbage and trash, sewage on the ground, excessive vegetation, unsanitary condition in public facilities and illegal dumping. Their telephone number is 340-5644

What services does the Sheriff's Department provide to the community?

The Davison County Sheriff's Office of Community Services provides the following services: litter removal from public streets and rights-of-way, alley clean up, grass cutting for Metro agencies, athletic fields, and ball parks. They also participate in various special projects for non-profit agencies. For more information you may call the Community Services Division at 880-3897.



Bill Purcell, Mayor

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Happy Holidays!

ON Metro Departments. . . Metropolitan Fire Department

In May of 1807, Nashville formed its first volunteer fire department. One hundred and ninety four years later, our fire department has 39 stations and over 1200 dedicated members. Serving 533 square miles and responding to over 68,000 calls in 2000, the Nashville Fire Department's mission is to minimize the loss of life and property resulting from fire, medical emergencies, environmental, and other disasters. The men and women of our fire department accomplish these goals through prevention, education, fire suppression, medical services, code enforcement, rescue skills, and other related emergency and non-emergency activities. They actively participate in the Nashville

community, and are dedicated role models for all of Nashville's citizens.

Chief Stephen Halford, a 30-year veteran of fire and EMS service, was appointed Director and Chief of the Nashville Fire Department on April 1, 2001. He began his career as a probationary firefighter in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, and retired as Chief and Director of Emergency Management 26 years later. He then served for two years as Chief of the Clayton Fire Department in Clayton, Missouri before bringing his extensive experience and expertise to Nashville's Fire Department. Chief Halford will focus on improving Nashville's EMS system with specific emphasis on reducing Advanced Life Support (ALS) response times and on implementing the recommendations of the management audit conducted by the

TriData Corporation.

As winter approaches, the Fire Department stresses the importance of fire safety and prevention. The fact is that 60 percent of all fire related deaths occur in homes without smoke detectors. Your Fire Department stresses the importance of smoke detectors in all homes, especially in homes that utilize alternative heat sources. It is also very important to utilize a carbon monoxide detector in any home with a fuel-burning heat source. The Fire Department encourages to regularly check batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and exercise caution when using alternative heat sources.

For further information about the Fire Department check out their at www.nashfire.org.